

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 A-01 OPR-02

SY-05 SSM-05 MCT-01 IO-13 AID-05 /096 W

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FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9856

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

DIA WASHDC

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 6683

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE

SUBJECT: OCTOBER 2 SYRIAN MEDIA CONTINUE TO REPORT CALM IN MOUNT
LEBANON

1. SYRIAN MEDIA REPORTED CALM IN MOUNT LEBANON AREA AND TOUR OF
METN BY SAIQA CHIEF ZUHAYR MUHSIN AND LEBANESE BAATHIST LEADER ASAM
QANSU. PRESS HEADLINED: "PRES. SARKIS CONTINUES HIS CONTACTS TO
FIND SOLUTION FOR LEBANESE CRISIS." PRESS NOTED SARKIS MET PREVIOUS
DAY WITH DR. KHOLI, LEBANESE ARMY COMMANDER HANNA SAID, GREEK
ORTHODOX METROPOLITAN SALIBI AND SOVIET CHARGE. NO DETAILS.

2. PRESS CLAIMED THAT INTERNATIONAL NEWS AGENCIES HAVE GIVEN
PROMINENCE TO REPORTS OF CALM IN MOUNT LEBANON. THEY HAVE
ALSO REPORTED STATEMENT
BY LEBANESE ARMY VANGUARDS COMMANDER PLACING VANGUARDS AT SARKIS
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DISPOSAL. ACCORDING TO PRESS, OBSERVERS PRAISED ENTRY

OF VANGUARDS TO MOUNT LEBANON AREA AS "DEADLY BLOW TO THOSE
CONSPIRING AGAINST
LEBANESE UNITY."

3. MEDIA CITED SANA RELIEASE FROM CHTAURA REPORTING VISIT OF
MUHSIN AND QANSU TO UPPER MTN REGION TO MEET WITH LOCAL VILLAGERS.
IN SERIES OF SPEECHES THEY CRITICIZED JUMBLATT, /SOME
PALESTINAIN LEADERS," IRAQ AND EGYPT FOR THEIR ACTIONS IN
LEBANON AND PRAISED "SYRIA'S HONORABLE POSITION."

4. PRES. ASAD MET OCT.1 WITH ALGERIAN INFOMIN DR. AHMAD
TALEB AL-IBRAHIMI WHO DELIVERED MESSAGE FROM PRES. BOUMEDIENNE.
IN PARIS, SECGEN OF ELYSEE PALACE RECEIVED SYRIAN AMB.
WHILE IN WASHINGTON PRES. FORD REVIEWED LEBANESE SITUATION
WITH FRENCH FONMIN.

5. SYRIAN MEDIA CONTINUES TO REPORT EXPRESSIONS OF CONDEMNATION
BY SYRIANS, PALESTINIANS AND OTHER ARABS FOR SEMIRAMIS HOTEL
OPERATION.

6. AL-THAWRAH COLUMNIST OPTIMISTICALLY SUGGESTED THAT INDICATIONS
FROM LEBANON AFFIRM THAT OBSTACLES TO RETURN OF NORMAL
LIFE RAPIDLY DISAPPEARING AND "FOREIGN PLOT HAS REACHED ITS
DEFINITE AND EXPECTED END."
MURPHY

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